

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Stephen Burr (Reg. No. 32,970) on 15 September 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

Amend claim 6 to read:

--6. (Currently Amended) A damage analysis program embodied on a computer-readable medium for causing a computer to support analysis of damage on a motor vehicle, characterized in that the computer caused to realize:

an image-generating function of importing individual drawing data corresponding to components constituting the motor vehicle into layers and generating an image of an analysis target site by superposing the layers;

an area designation-receiving function of receiving input designating a damaged area by a user to the image; and

a damage-analyzing function of specifying a damaged portion of each component on a layer-by-layer basis, with each layer having drawing data that belongs to the damaged area designated by the user.--

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the prior art teaches or suggests importing individual drawings corresponding to components constituting a motor vehicle into layers and superposing the layers to generate an image, receiving an input

designating a damaged area by a user to the image; and specifying a damaged portion of each component on a layer by layer basis, as variously required by the claimed invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Claims 1-9 are allowed.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew Johns whose telephone number is (571) 272-7391. The examiner is normally available Monday through Friday, at least during the hours of 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Eastern Time. The examiner may also be contacted by e-mail using the address: andrew.johns@uspto.gov. (Applicant is reminded of the Office policy regarding e-mail communications. See M.P.E.P. § 502.03)

If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta, can be reached at (571) 272-7453. The fax phone number for this art unit is (571) 273-8300. In order to ensure prompt delivery to the examiner, all unofficial communications should be clearly labeled as "Draft" or "Unofficial."

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center Receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

A. Johns
15 September 2009

/Andrew W. Johns/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2624